

## Guidebook

### Definitions

1. Agricultural Water Management Council (AWMC) - A consortium of agricultural water agencies and public interest groups to implement water conservation practices in California. This effort was formalized in a MOU signed in 1996. AWMC continues to grow with new signatories being accepted every year. Signatory water suppliers agree to develop and implement comprehensive conservation BMPs using sound economic criteria.
2. BMP - A policy, program, practice, rule, regulation and/or ordinance, or the use of devices, equipment, or facilities that meet either of the following:
  - a. An established and generally accepted practice among contractors that results in more efficient use, conservation/management of water, or
  - b. A practice for which sufficient data are available from existing water management projects to indicate that significant efficiency improvements or management related benefits can be achieved, that the practice is technically and economically reasonable and not socially or environmentally unacceptable, and that the practice is not otherwise unreasonable for most contractors to carry out.
3. CALFED - State-Federal program formalized in June 1994 upon the execution of a Framework Agreement by State and Federal agencies having management and regulatory responsibility in the Bay-Delta Estuary. The mission of CALFED is to develop and implement a long-term comprehensive plan that will restore the ecological health of the Bay-Delta.
4. CUWCC - A consortium of urban water agencies and public interest groups to implement water conservation practices in California. This effort was formalized in a MOU signed in 1991. CUWCC continues to grow with new signatories being accepted every year. Signatory water suppliers agree to develop and implement comprehensive conservation BMPs using sound economic criteria.
5. Conjunctive Use - The planned and coordinated use of surface and ground-water supplies to increase water supply reliability, as may be included in a Ground Water Management Plan or Banking Program.
6. Contractor - Entities that contract with Reclamation for urban and/or for agricultural water.
7. District - The physical boundaries of the contractor's service area.
8. Five-Year Plan Revision - The revision of a Plan using the most recently adopted Criteria.

Under RRA, contractors are required to re-evaluate and re-submit to Reclamation their respective Plans every 5 years.

9. Ground Water Banking Program - The intentional storage of supplies in subsurface aquifers beyond coincident irrigation needs with the expectation of subsequent retrieval for beneficial use. The contractor should have a reasonable rationale of how the contractor or customers will benefit when the water is retrieved for beneficial use. Ground-water banking usually involves keeping an account of water input and the subsequent use by predetermined or specified parties. Ground-water recharge alone is not a Ground Water Management Plan or a Ground Water Banking Program. An acceptable Ground Water Management Plan or Banking Program must have a method of retrieval of such water for beneficial use.

10. Ground Water Management Plan - A set of practices and management actions that improve ground-water conditions with the intent of protecting and/or increasing the benefits including the sustainability of the ground-water aquifer.

11. Ground-Water Recharge - The natural or intentional infiltration of surface water into the zone of saturation.

12. Implementation - Achieving and maintaining the staffing, funding, and the priority levels necessary to achieve the level of activity called for in the descriptions of the various BMPs. And to satisfy the commitment by the contractor to use good-faith efforts to optimize benefits from implementing BMPs.

13. Retailer - A contractor who sells all water directly to the water user.

14. Riparian ET - ET from non-crop vegetation usually growing along the banks of water conveyance and storage facilities.

15. Water Conservation/Water Management - Use of less water to accomplish the same purpose(s) or the use of the same amount of water to accomplish additional benefits. An example of the latter is implementation of a BMP that results in increased total crop production using the same amount of water. Water management that results in the increased benefits of water can be achieved through the implementation of BMPs identified in the criteria. For the purpose of the Criteria, water conservation is considered the same as water management.

16. Wholesaler - A contractor who sells water to entities who resell the water usually to multiple customers.